

JOHN CANSE PAPERS

The Reverend John Canse was a Methodist minister and historian active in the affairs of the Washington State Historical Society (WSHS). He served on the WSHS Board of Curators from 1918 to 1940 and was elected President of the Board in 1942. Canse researched and wrote a number of essays on Methodist history in the Pacific Northwest.

This partially processed collection of papers includes books, correspondence, historical notes and essays, manuscripts, newspapers, and publications. Of these materials, the correspondence is the most complete with regard to arrangement and description. Dating from 1917 to 1958, topics addressed in the correspondence include: the 150th Celebration of Robert Gray's voyage into Puget Sound, the genealogy of Robert Gray and John Kendrick, Canse's stereoptican slide lectures, appropriations for WSHS, the campaign to rename Mt. Rainier Mt. Tacoma, Fort Henness Memorial celebration, and the history of Methodism in the Northwest.

Processed Materials

- Correspondence: 1917. (Canse's election to the Wash. State Historical Society's (WSHS) Board of Curators)
- Correspondence: 1918. (Travel vouchers for fare to Tacoma for WSHS meeting)
- Correspondence: 1919. (A history of Washington State during World War I-ideas for the preparation of this publication)
- Correspondence: 1920. (Canse's stereoptican lecture at WSHS meeting)
- Correspondence: 1922. (Preparation of lantern slides for lecture on Northwest history)
- Correspondence: 1923. (Question over a historical date concerning the White River Massacre, 1895 memorial to Robert Gray and John Kendrick)
- Correspondence: 1924. January-December. (Robert Gray)
 - March 14. Cora Chase Charlton to Mrs. Mitchell. (Genealogy of Captain Robert Gray-family tree included)
 - July 17. Gertrude Eaton to Mr. M.G. Mitchell. (Robert Gray)
- Correspondence: 1926. January-December. (Fort Henness memorial program, dedication of the Robert Gray School)
 - June 29. WSHS to W.M. Woody. (Fort Henness memorial program-pamphlet included, land for another memorial)
- Correspondence: 1928. (Stereoptican lecture on Northwest history)
- Correspondence: 1929. January-December. (Media coverage of the "Washington Celebration", biographical information on John Kendrick and Robert Gray, home missions meeting-Indian exhibits and materials)
 - April 3. W.P. Bonney from unknown. (George Washington memorial celebration)
- Correspondence: 1930. (Request for a print or records related to George Catlin)
- Correspondence: 1931. (Hezeta Expedition of 1775, a speech on Northwest history, input

for Robert Gray anniversary event, postage stamp in honor of Robert Gray)

Correspondence: 1932. January-February. (Genealogy of Robert Gray, memorial to Robert Gray, suggestions for local celebrations honoring Robert Gray, 1892 celebration for Robert Gray in Astoria)

January 20. Gertrude Eaton to Mr. Storer. (Robert Gray genealogy)

February 4. Fred Lockey to Canse. (Book dealer interested in possible duplication of books about Methodist history in the Northwest-book list included)

Correspondence: 1932. March-June. (Robert Gray Memorial Association, pamphlets on George Washington, genealogy of Robert Gray, the papers of Robert Gray, Robert Gray Discovery Day Luncheon)

March 3. Mrs. M.G. Mitchell to Richard Lloyd Jones. (Historical "falsehoods" concerning naming of Mt. Rainier by Captain Vancouver-newspaper clipping enclosed)

March 9. Mrs. M.G. Mitchell to R.C. Flanders. (Restoration of the name Tacoma to Mt. Rainier)

March 25. Edith Everson to Canse. (A journal-log book from a Robert Gray voyage)

June 11. Gertrude Eaton to Mrs. M.G. Mitchell. (Genealogy of Robert Gray-flyer on Gray celebrations enclosed)

Correspondence: 1932. July-December. (Biographical information on Robert Gray, Robert Gray Memorial Association, original log on the *Lady Washington*, origins of the name "Tacoma")

September 5. Cora Charlton to Canse. (Genealogy of Robert Gray)

November 18. Mrs. M.G. Mitchell to Canse. (Denial of a request by Mrs. Mitchell to use historical records relating to Robert Gray)

Correspondence: 1933. January-December. (Research on Robert Gray, Robert Gray Memorial Association, media coverage of Gray events)

April 16. E.T. Hazeltine to Canse. (Robert Gray Celebration Committee-newspaper clipping enclosed)

Correspondence: 1934. (Jason Lee's centenary, article on Jason Lee)

Correspondence: 1935. (Meeting of the Southwest Washington Pioneers, articles on Mt. Tacoma and Seattle Sound, log of the *Lady Washington*)

Correspondence: 1936. January-December. (Plan to restore Whitman Mission, the role of the Grays Harbor Planning Board in the Gray Discovery Day)

February 17. Canse to Mr. Brackett. (WSHS Board of Curators meeting, planning for Robert Gray Celebration-note to Bonney attracted)

August 19. N.B. Coffman to Canse. (Canse's attendance at a meeting in Chehalis-two pages of notes included)

- Correspondence: 1937. January-December. (Materials related to Robert Gray, Jason Lee Mission)
- February 3. Canse to Representative Martin Smith. (Smith's speech on Robert Gray before the Washington State House)
 - September 25. Paul North Rice to Canse. (Resources at the New York Public Library on Robert Gray)
- Correspondence: 1938. January-December. (Townsend National Recovery Plan, experiments made by Robert Gray and Kendricks under naval orders, historical marker in Marcus)
- February 10. D.W. Knox to Representative Martin Smith. (Canse's request for information on Robert Gray's history in the Navy)
- Correspondence: 1939. January-December. (1939 Wash. Golden Jubilee, state support for a Robert Gray Discovery Memorial, materials concerning Robert Gray and John Kendrick from Boston Archives)
- May 9. Edith Emerson to Canse. (Request for materials relating to Columbia River, log book of Box Hoskins)
 - June 21. Harry Cain to Canse. (Governor Martin and 39 County parade for state jubilee celebration)
- Correspondence: 1940. January-December. (Columbia River International Exposition, interest in the estate of Sarah Soule McMillan Patton)
- June 7. Canse to Mrs. N.B. Coffman. (Death of Mr. Coffman)
- Correspondence: 1941. January-December. (Bulletin on Robert Gray, Whitman letters, records relating to John Kendrick, publication of the Brewer Wacopam Journal)
- October 30. John Kenrick to Canse. (John Kendrick-biography)
 - November 1. John Kenrick to Canse. (John Kendrick-biography)
 - November 4. Kenrick Sparrow to Canse. (John Kendrick)
- Correspondence: 1942. January-December. (Canse's publication on Gray and Kendrick Expedition, WSHS appropriations, Gray and Vancouver 150th observance, books on Northwest history)
- January 9. W. L. McCormick to Canse. (WSHS annual meeting)
 - January 30. W. L. McCormick to E.D. Brabrook. (WSHS budget)
 - February 11. W.L. McCormick to S.A. Perkins. (WSHS 1941 report)
 - February 16. Canse to W. L. McCormick. (Robert Gray Discovery Days Celebration-3 letters)
 - February 20. W. L. McCormick to S.A. Perkins. (Report on WSHS's museum)
 - March 24. Kenrick Sparrow to Canse. (John Kendrick-bio)
- Correspondence: 1943. (Minutes of WSHS Board of Curators meeting, Grand Mound Cemetery property)
- Correspondence: 1946. (Belknap family history)
- Correspondence: 1947. January-December. (Centennial of Pacific Methodist Conference,

early missionaries in Northwest, historical skit)

March 17. Canse to Mr. Foster. (Methodist Centennial Memorial event planning)

Correspondence: 1948. (Robert Gray biographical information, Jason Lee, Dr. Roberti)

Correspondence: 1950. (Hoover Commission Report)

Correspondence: 1952. (Fort Simcoe Centennial)

Correspondence: 1954. (Manuscript repository guide)

Correspondence: 1958. (Research inquiry sent to WSHS concerning churches in the Pacific Northwest Conference of 1859 and reply from WSHS Librarian)

Correspondence: Undated. (Request from Tacoma City Controller for information on early Tacoma officials, Canse's election to Presidency of WSHS)

Historical Essays: Essays On the History of Methodism in the Northwest. 1932 (Essays may have been part of the manuscript "Our Debt To the Circuit Riders" but were found separately and not identified as being part of a larger work)

Historical Essays: General Northwest Religious History. 1947.

Historical Notes: Notes from Perkins' Letters. undated

Historical Notes: Robert Gray and Columbia River History. (Undated notes taken by Canse and written on the back of correspondence documenting Canse's ministerial activities)

Lecture Notes: "Carrying the Torch Northwestward: The Methodist Lamp of Learning Turned Toward the Pacific." 1928 (Script for a stereoptican slide show given by Canse)

Manuscript: "Our Debt To the Circuit Riders" Part I of III. 1946 (Manuscript presented to the Pacific Northwest Annual Methodist Conference on the history of Methodism in Northwest. Index to chapters within the parts is located at the front of Parts I and III. Many of the titles to the chapters in Parts II and III were changed.)

Manuscript: "Our Debt To the Circuit Riders" Part II of III. 1946

Manuscript: "Our Debt To the Circuit Riders" Part III of III. 1946

Radio Script: "The Methodist Story." 1952 Cyrus Albertson.